

Attorney Docket No. UMBP:126US
U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/604,580
Reply to Office Action of December 2, 2004
Date: January 3, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A case, comprising:

a housing having a hollow interior and a channel proximate a perimeter of said housing at two sides thereof;

a first end cap ~~fixedly~~ secured to a first end of said housing, ~~said first end cap having a channel proximate a perimeter thereof;~~

a second end cap ~~removably~~ secured to a second end of said housing, said second end cap having a channel proximate a perimeter thereof; and,

~~an~~ at least one elastic band positioned within said channel of said housing, ~~said channel of said first end cap~~ and said channel of said second end cap, said elastic band operatively arranged to dispose said second end cap into a retained position in engagement with said second end of said housing.

2. (Original) The case as recited in Claim 1 further comprising at least two fingers/studs disposed within said channels of said housing; said fingers/studs adapted for passing said elastic band therethrough.

3. (Original) The case as recited in Claim 2 wherein said second end cap further comprises at least two alignment receptacles; said alignment receptacles having a shape complementary to said fingers/studs and operatively arranged for mating therewith.

4. (Currently Amended) The case as recited in Claim 3 wherein said first end cap has a channel proximate a perimeter thereof and said elastic band forms a closed loop.

5. (Currently Amended) The case of Claim 1 wherein ~~A case comprising:~~
~~a housing having a hollow interior and a channel proximate a perimeter of said housing at two sides thereof;~~

said first end cap is a first end cap removably secured to said a first end of said housing;
~~said first end cap having and has~~ a channel proximate a perimeter thereof;

said a second end cap is removably secured to said a second end of said housing, ~~said second end cap having a channel proximate a perimeter thereof; and,~~

said ~~an~~ elastic band is positioned within said channel of said housing, said channel of said first end cap and said channel of said second end cap, said elastic band operatively arranged to dispose said first and second end caps into a retained position in engagement with said housing.

6. (Currently amended) The case as recited in Claim 5 further comprising ~~a~~-at least two fingers/studs disposed within said channels of said housing; said fingers/studs adapted for passing said elastic band therethrough.

7. (Original) The case as recited in Claim 6 wherein said first and second end caps each comprise at least two alignment receptacles; said alignment receptacles having a shape

Attorney Docket No. UMBP:126US
U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/604,580
Reply to Office Action of December 2, 2004
Date: January 3, 2005

complementary to said fingers/studs and operatively arranged for mating therewith to secure said first and second end caps to said housing.

8. (Original) The case as recited in Claim 7 wherein said elastic band forms a closed loop.

9. (Currently Amended) The case as recited in Claim ~~7~~ 1 comprising first and second linear elastic bands; said first linear elastic band operatively arranged to urge said first end cap against a first end of said holder and said second linear elastic band operatively arranged to urge said second end cap against a second end of said holder.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The case as recited in Claim 2 ~~10 further comprising at least two fingers/studs disposed within said channels of said housing; wherein said fingers/studs are~~ adapted for securing the a terminal end of said elastic band.

12. (Original) The case as recited in Claim 11 wherein said second end cap further comprises at least two alignment receptacles; said alignment receptacles having a shape complementary to said fingers/studs and operatively arranged for mating therewith.

13. (Currently Amended) The case as recited in Claim ~~10~~ 1 comprising a pair of linear elastic bands.

14. (Original) The case as recited in Claim 13 further comprising at least two fingers/studs disposed within said channels of said housing; said fingers/studs adapted for securing a first free end of each of said elastic bands.

15. (Original) The case as recited in Claim 14 wherein said second end cap further comprises at least two alignment receptacles; said alignment receptacles having a shape complementary to said fingers/studs and operatively arranged for mating therewith; said second end cap adapted for securing a second free end of each of said pair of linear elastic bands.

16. (Currently Amended) The case of Claim 1 wherein said channel proximate a perimeter of said housing ~~A case, comprising:~~

~~a housing having a hollow interior and a channel~~ is disposed about a said perimeter of said housing at two sides thereof;

~~a first end cap secured to a first end of said housing,~~ said first end cap and said second end cap ~~having each~~ having a channel disposed about a perimeter thereof;

~~a second end cap secured to a second end of said housing, said second end cap having a channel about a perimeter thereof;~~ and,

said an elastic band is positioned within said channel of said housing, said channel of said first end cap and said channel of said second end cap.

17. (Original) The case as recited in Claim 16 wherein said elastic band is operatively arranged to dispose said second end cap into a retained position in engagement with said second end of said housing.

18. (Currently Amended) The case as recited in Claim 16 wherein said elastic band is operatively arranged to dispose ~~said second end cap into a retained position in engagement with said second end of said housing and~~ said first end cap into a retained position in engagement with said first end of said housing.

19. (Currently Amended) The case as recited in Claim ~~17~~ 16 wherein said first end cap is fixedly secured to a first end of said housing.

20. (New) The case as recited in Claim 1 wherein said first end cap is fixedly secured to said first end of said housing and said second end cap is releasably secured to said second end of said housing.

21. (New) The case as recited in Claim 20 further comprising at least two fingers/studs, said fingers/studs disposed within said channels of said housing and adapted for passing said elastic band therethrough; said second end cap further comprising at least two alignment receptacles; said alignment receptacles having a shape complementary to said fingers/studs and operatively arranged for mate therewith.

22. (New) The case as recited in Claim 21 wherein said first end cap has a channel proximate a perimeter thereof and said elastic band forms a closed loop.

23. (New) A case, comprising:

a housing having a hollow interior and a channel proximate a perimeter of said housing at two sides thereof;

a first end cap securable to a first end of said housing,

a second end cap securable to a second end of said housing, said second end cap having a channel proximate a perimeter thereof; and,

at least one elastic band positioned within said channel of said housing and said channel of said second end cap,

Attorney Docket No. UMBP:126US
U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/604,580
Reply to Office Action of December 2, 2004
Date: January 3, 2005

wherein said first end cap is fixedly secured to said first end of said housing and said at least one elastic band is operatively is arranged to releasably secure said second end cap in mating engagement with said second end of said housing.